



**Te Tāhuhu o  
te Mātauranga**  
Ministry of Education

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4 May 2026

Tēnā koe Pip

**OIA: GEMS-46859 – Te Marautanga o Aotearoa and NZ Curriculum Alignment**

Thank you for your email of 18 February 2026 to the Ministry of Education (the Ministry) requesting the following information:

*I request all information, advice, briefings, reports, internal communications, and correspondence (including emails, meeting notes, text communications, memos and talking point notes) held by the Ministry of Education and/or the Minister of Education's Office relating to any intention, proposal, consideration, or discussion regarding Te Marautanga o Aotearoa being revised, aligned with, or made a direct translation of The New Zealand Curriculum from 1 September 2025 to 18 February 2026.*

*Specifically, I request:*

- 1. Any Cabinet papers, briefings, or policy advice relating to the future positioning of Te Marautanga o Aotearoa in relation to The New Zealand Curriculum (Te Mataiaho).*
- 2. Any documentation discussing whether Te Marautanga o Aotearoa will remain a distinct curriculum document or become a translation or mirrored version of The New Zealand Curriculum.*
- 3. Any communications regarding the rationale, policy intent, or decision-making process underpinning such consideration.*
- 4. Any analysis of implications (including legal, Treaty of Waitangi, pedagogical, or sector impact analysis) associated with aligning or translating Te Marautanga o Aotearoa directly from The New Zealand Curriculum.*
- 5. Any communications with external stakeholders, advisory groups, iwi representatives, or sector bodies regarding this matter.*

*For the avoidance of doubt, this request includes correspondence between the Ministry of Education and the Minister's Office, as well as communications with any external stakeholders or advisors relating to the above matters.*

Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

In response to **part one** of your request, the Ministry sent one paper *Draft Years 0-10 Te Marautanga o Aotearoa Wāhanga Ako for release* to the Minister of Education on 5 December 2025. This paper is due to be proactively released here: <https://www.education.govt.nz/our-work/information-releases/advice-seen-our-ministers>, so I am refusing this part of your request under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested will soon be publicly available.

Regarding **parts two and three** of your request, there is no documentation discussing whether Te Marautanga o Aotearoa will remain a distinct curriculum document or become a translation or mirrored version of The New Zealand Curriculum.

The National Curriculum needs to be of universal and national application to all state and state-integrated schools, and the dual pathways within it need to:

- provide a common foundation for State education
- provide a fundamental level of consistency between State schools.

This supports students who move between curriculum pathways.

This does not, however, negate the distinct role of Te Marautanga o Aotearoa in supporting delivery of the National Curriculum through te reo Māori. Bilingual and immersion teaching and learning programmes support the revitalisation of te reo Māori, which is central as the vehicle for Māori cultural practices and thought, and enabling mokopuna to experience and express the richness of the Māori world.

This means there is necessary alignment between the two sets of curriculum documents, but there are also differences that reflect Te Marautanga o Aotearoa's distinct role and the different considerations for bilingual and immersion settings when designing their teaching and learning programmes to deliver the National Curriculum. While there is some shared content, the two sets of curriculum documents are not direct translations of one another.

In response to **parts four and five** of your request, please refer to the **Appendix A Document Table** below, which lists emails sent or received between 1 September 2025 to 18 February 2026 related to aligning Te Marautanga o Aotearoa with The New Zealand Curriculum. I am releasing three of these documents in part, with some information withheld under the following sections of the Act:

- 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of individuals
- 9(2)(f)(iv) to maintain the constitutional conventions for the time being which protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers of the Crown and officials
- 9(2)(g)(i) to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions
- 9(2)(h) to maintain legal professional privilege.

I am withholding one document in full under section 9(2)(h) of the Act, as above.

As required under section 9(1) of the Act, I have considered the public interest in releasing the information withheld. I do not consider that the public interest considerations favouring the release of this information are sufficient to outweigh the need to withhold it at this time.

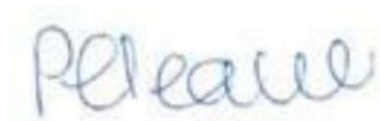
I am refusing an early draft working document linked in the email numbered 2 in the document table, under section 18(e) of the Act as the link to the document is corrupted and therefore no longer exist. The Ministry has endeavoured to identify a copy of this document, however, despite reasonable efforts, it can no longer be located. However, the final version of this document has now been published on our website at <https://kauwhatareo.tahurangi.education.govt.nz/kauwhata-reo-online/te-anga-marautanga-o-aotearoa/5637317828.p>

The documents I am releasing are attached as **Appendix B**.

Please note, we may publish this response on our website after five working days. Your name and contact details will be removed.

Thank you again for your email. You have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review my decision on your request, in accordance with section 28 of the Act. You can do this by writing to [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or to Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143.

Nāku noa, nā



Pauline Cleaver

**Hautū (Taupua) | Deputy Secretary (Acting)**  
**Te Mahau | Te Poutāhū (Curriculum Centre)**

## Appendix A - Document Table Emails

#	Date	From	To	Subject	Decision on release
1	4 November 2025	Jane Emerson	9(2)(a)	FW: Differentiation within curriculum statements?	<b>Withheld in full</b> under section 9(2)(h)
2	31 October 2025	9(2)(a)	Andrea Schollmann Mere-Heni Simcock-Reweti	TMOA Framework	<b>Release in part.</b> Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a) 9(2)(g)(i) and 9(2)(h). Some information refused under section 18(e).
3	26 October 2025	9(2)(a)	Mere-Heni Simcock-Reweti	Chat message	<b>Release in part.</b> Some information withheld under section 9(2)(g)(i)
4	9 October 2025	9(2)(a)	Mere-Heni Simcock-Reweti	FW: NZC & TMOA	<b>Release in part.</b> Some information withheld under sections 9(2)(a), 9(2)(f)(iv), 9(2)(g)(i) and 9(2)(h).